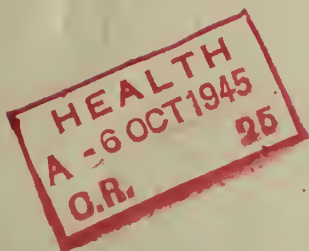


LIBRARY



HALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T S
=====

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1944.

=====



HALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

=====

SANITARY COMMITTEE.

Councillors J. W. PARRY, J.P. (Chairman).

H. ARNOLD.

J. CLARKE.

F. C. EDMUNDS.

E. M. JOHNSON, M.Sc. (Tech), A.M.I.E.E.

F. H. HOLMES.

N. HOUGHTON.

H. PEDDAR.

J. W. ROGERS.

R. H. TOOTILL, J.P., C.C.

J. H. M. WALKER, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.P.

J. W. WARBURTON.

Co-opted Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare
Committee: --

MRS. R. I. MIDGLEY.

MRS. D. MORRISON.

MRS. F. LOCKWOOD.

N. S. THOMAS,
Clerk of the Council.

D. I. CONNOLLY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.(Vict.)
Medical Officer of Health.
Medical Superintendent, Child Welfare and Ante-Natal
Clinic.

F. J. SEALEY, M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B.
Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

MISS L. M. HEATON, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Health Visitor, Infant Protection Visitor.

MISS E. DRINKWATER,
Clerk-Typist.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Statute Acres)	2,248
Resident Population (Registrar General's Estimate, 1944)	11,440
Population (Census, 1931)	10,667
Number of Inhabited Houses (Per Rate Books, 1944)	3,750
Number of Dwellings occupied by one private family (1931)	2,669
Rateable Value	£142,203
Sum represented by a penny rate	£570
Total Rates	9/-

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Live Births - Legitimate	85	66	151
Illegitimate	4	4	4
Total	85	70	155
	====	====	====
Stillbirths - Legitimate	1	4	5
Illegitimate	1	4	5
	====	====	====
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births			31.2
Birth-Rate			13.55
	Males.	Females.	Total
Deaths	68	87	155
Death-Rate			13.55
Deaths from Puerperal Causes			Nil
Death-Rate from Puerperal Causes (per 1,000 births)			Nil
Total Deaths of Infants under one year of age			5
Legitimate			4
Death-Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births			26.5
Illegitimate			1
Death-Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births			250.0
Death-Rate of Infants under one year of age			32.3
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			Nil
Deaths from Cancer			24

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Ashley Road,
HALE.

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1944.

Summary:

The Birth Rate still lags behind that of the Birth Rate for England and Wales and it may be noticed in passing that the Births of Hale residents registered outside the district makes a very large percentage of the total, possibly this is due in great part to the high class residential nature of the district coupled with the fact that there are no Maternity Homes in Hale.

The Infant Mortality Rate fortunately shows a well marked downward tendency compared with last year.

The Death Rate and the Birth Rate are both the same - a strange coincidence.

Unfortunately Cancer still takes a high toll in the number of deaths.

The figures as regards Infectious Diseases are satisfactory.

The figures showing the number of Immunised children in the area, I feel sure, are amongst the best in the country.

As regards Tuberculosis there is an increase in the number of cases notified - most likely this is due to the conditions obtaining during the war years.

The Health Services in the area are satisfactory.

The Maternity & Child Welfare Centre continues its good work and I am very grateful to the Nurse and voluntary workers for their assistance.

The Home Help Service, including Part-time Help, is proving to be of great value.

One satisfactory item in the Death Rate is that there were no Maternal Deaths during the year.

The district seems practically free from infestations as regards Scabies or Lice.

Taken on the whole the health of the district continues to be satisfactory.

D. I. CONNOLLY.

BIRTHS

Boys, 85; Girls, 70; Total 155.

The number of births registered in the district was 41. In addition to these, 114 belonging to the district, but registered elsewhere, have been added, making a total of 155 - 6 less than last year, and 7 less than the peak year in 1910, when 162 births were recorded.

This gives a birth-rate of 13.55 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 17.6 for England and Wales.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Five deaths occurred among children under one year of age during 1944. A substantial improvement on last year, when 11 were recorded.

The following table gives the infant mortality rate for this district during the past five year.

<u>1940.</u>	<u>1941.</u>	<u>1942.</u>	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1944.</u>
10.10	31.0	50.8	68.3	32.3

DEATHS.

Males, 68; Females, 87; Total 155.

This gives a death-rate of 13.55 per 1,000 of the population, which is the highest death rate for the district since 1901, when the figure was 13.849

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND INQUESTS.

During the year inquests were held in connection with the deaths of 9 persons; in 6 cases death was found to be due to natural causes, and in 3 cases death followed as the result of accidents, or suicide.

CANCER (MALIGNANT DISEASE).

There were 24 deaths from Cancer (7 males, 17 females), giving a rate of 2.10 per 1,000 of the population.

Classified Deaths from Cancer.

Localisation	No.
Mouth and Oesophagus	1
Generative Organs	3
Stomach and Dueodenum	2
Breast	2
Other Sites...	16
TOTAL	24

ORGANIC HEART DISEASE.

During the year there were 57 deaths from heart diseases, giving a death-rate of 4.97 per 1,000 of the population.

RESPIRATORY ORGANS.

The deaths numbered 14 (Pulmonary Tuberculosis 2; Bronchitis 8; Pneumonia 1; Other Respiratory Disease 3), giving a death-rate of 1.22 per 1,000.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 69 cases of Infectious disease, other than Tuberculosis, were notified, this total being made up as follows:-

Table of Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis).

Disease	No. Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	29	19	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	-
Diphtheria	2	2	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Pneumonia	3	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Measles	32	-	-
Meningitis	-	-	-
Totals... ..	69	21	1

Scarlet Fever was consistently appearing, but otherwise the district was notably free from infectious disease.

Disinfection was carried out as in previous years by spraying infected rooms with formalin solution and fumigating with vapour. Infected bedding and clothing are treated with steam or destroyed. Disinfectants are supplied free to residents of Hale.

Number of houses fumigated during 1944	...	...	...	38
Number of Schools fumigated during 1944	...	...	...	2
Number of rooms fumigated during 1944	...	...	...	47
Bedding and other articles disinfected	...	...	...	36
Bedding destroyed	...	...	...	3

IMMUNISATION.

The campaign for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria has been successfully continued. Children are received for immunisation at the Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic. The local practitioners also contribute to the campaign, which has now produced protection for more than two thirds of the children of the district:-

	Under 5	5 - 15	Total
Number of complete immunisations during year	131	6	137
Number of partial immunisations during year	9	1	10
Total children completely or partially immunised during year	140	7	147
Estimated Child Population	657	1364	2021
Number of complete immunisations to date	395	1044	1439
Number of partial immunisations to date	9	1	10
Total number complete or in progress to date	404	1045	1449
Percentage of children completely immunised at end of year	60.1	76.5	71.2
Percentage of children partially immunised at end of year	1.4	0.1	0.5
Percentage of children completely or partially immunised at end of year	61.5	76.6	71.7

TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease are given in the following table:-

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0 - 1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 ...	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 ...	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 ...	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 55 ...	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
55 - 65 ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS ...	4	9	1	1	2	-	-	-
	13		2		2		-	

The number of cases receiving sanatorium treatment during the year was 8; in addition 1 non-pulmonary case received hospital treatment.

The notification of tuberculosis is satisfactory, and it has not been necessary to take any action in cases of neglect or refusal to notify.

At the end of the year there were 81 cases of Tuberculosis in this district, as compared with 62 at the outbreak of war in 1939. Details are as follows:-

	MALES		FEMALES		TOTALS
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
1939	20	5	18	19	62
1944	31	11	22	17	81

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

There has been no change in the provisions previously recorded which are as follows:-

Bacteriological Examination in Diagnosis of Infectious Disease.

The following is a statement of the bacteriological examinations of specimens sent from this District during the year. The examinations of sputum for human tuberculosis were carried out at the laboratory of the County Medical Officer of Health. Specimens for diphtheria and typhoid fever were examined at the Public Health Laboratory of the Victoria University of Manchester.

DIPHTHERIA		TYPHOID FEVER		SCARLET FEVER		TUBERCULOSIS	
Total	Positive	Total	Positive	Total	Positive	Total	Positive
11	1	-	-	16	5	28	3

The Cheshire County Council make arrangements for the examination of specimens in the detection of venereal diseases.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) Infectious cases are removed in the Motor Ambulances provided by the Manchester Corporation.

(b) Two Motor Ambulances are provided by the Hale and Bowdon Joint Fire and Ambulance Committee; the service is adequate. The Ambulances are available both day and night for the removal of cases of accident or sudden illness; they are also available for the removal of cases requiring hospital or surgical treatment, by arrangement.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

Through the local Nursing Association the services of six nurses are available for general nursing. The Association is entirely voluntary.

There are also arrangements in force whereby the services of these nurses can be placed at the disposal of the Council, when required, in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare Work.

Private nurses are available from various Nurses' Homes situate in Manchester and the neighbouring districts.

MIDWIVES.

There is no employment of (or subsidy to) practising midwives in the district, by this Council. The Midwives' Act is administered by the Cheshire County Council.

Hospital Accommodation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The North Cheshire Joint Hospital Board, of which this Council is one of the Constituent Authorities, have, by the terms of an agreement with the Manchester Corporation, the use of 45 beds in Monsall Hospital, belonging to the Manchester Corporation, for cases of Infectious Disease, and an option, subject to six months' notice during the subsistence of the agreement, for the further use of an additional number of beds not exceeding ten.

SMALL POX.

Also, by the terms of the above Agreement, the Manchester Corporation will receive and treat at their Clayton Hospital such cases of Small Pox occurring within the district as may be sent to such Hospital by the Board.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Board have the call on ten beds in Baguley Sanatorium for the accommodation and treatment of cases of Phthisis occurring within the area.

There are no treatment centres or clinics other than the one established under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

Hospital Contributions.

The Council subscribes to and make direct arrangements with the following Hospitals:-

The Royal Infirmary, Manchester - General Medical and Surgical.
St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester - Maternity Cases.
The Manchester and Salford Hospital for Diseases of the Skin.
The General Hospital, Altrincham - Consisting of 100 beds,
affording Medical, Surgical, X-ray, Electrical and Massage
Treatment.
The Royal Manchester Children's Hospital.
The Altrincham and District Orthopaedic After-Care Clinic.

The whole of the above Hospitals are maintained by voluntary contributions.

Other voluntary Hospitals, situate in the City of Manchester, are available for the reception and treatment of patients from the district of Hale, and arrangements exist with the Cheshire County Council for the admission of maternity cases to Southfields Maternity Home, where home conditions or potential complications warrant it.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

This Centre is in a central position, and is provided by the Council with subsidy. Sessions are held every Wednesday, with the exception of the first Wednesday in each month, when the Ante-Natal Clinic is held.

The Centre is under the direct supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, assisted by a nurse and staff of voluntary workers. It gives great pleasure once again to express appreciation of the work done by these ladies.

The following figures of attendances will show the work of the Centre during the year 1944:-

	<u>Residents</u>	<u>Evacuees</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Number of attendances at the centre during the year	2334	216	2550
(a) Children under 1 year ...	1469	133	1602
(b) Children 1 to 5 years ...	865	83	948
2. Number of children attending for the first time:-			
(a) Children under 1 year ...	98	32	130
(b) Children 1 to 5 years ...	17	19	36
3. Number of children in attendance at the end of the year:-			
(a) Children under 1 year ...	75	10	85
(b) Children 1 to 5 years ...	155	7	162

CLASSIFIED LIST OF VISITS MADE BY HEALTH VISITOR.

Total Number of visits	1,250
To Expectant Mothers:-	
First visits	56
Total visits	55
To Children under 1 year:-	
First visits	106
Total visits	476
To Children aged 1 to 5 years:-	
Total visits	719

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Sessions are held once every month (Wednesday afternoons) under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, assisted by the Health Visitor. Routine examinations are carried out, advice given, and necessary information forwarded to the midwife or medical practitioner engaged to attend at the time of confinement.

Arrangements have been made with Dr. K. Vernon Bailey, Consulting Obstetrician, to whom cases can be referred and interviewed at his private consulting rooms, 2, St. John Street, Manchester. Arrangements can also be made for the Specialist to be in personal attendance at the Clinic.

Number of sessions held during the year 12

	<u>Residents</u>	<u>Evacuees</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total number of attendances ...	119	27	146
Number of Expectant Mothers attending during the year ...	45	15	60

No patients were referred to the Consulting Obstetrician during the year, but five cases were referred to St. Mary's Hospital, and two of those were admitted for confinements, and two awaited admission at the end of the year.

Five expectant mothers were admitted to the Southfields County Maternity Home during the year, and 1 awaited admission at the end of the year.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Free dental treatment is available to Ante-Natal patients in necessitous cases. During the year no patients received treatment at the expense of the Council.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

Consideration has been given to Circular 20/44 of the Ministry of Health on the above-named subject. The Council have taken action to secure accurate information as to prematurity by asking Medical Practitioners and Midwives to indicate on birth notification cards the weight of the baby at birth. It is intended that the Services of the Health Visitor and Home Help shall be particularly directed to any such cases as are born at home.

There are no Maternity Hospitals under the Council's control so that the question for special provision in such Hospitals does not arise as far as this Council is concerned.

The Ambulance available in this area is provided with Oxygen apparatus as recommended, for the transport of premature babies.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

In view of the Ministry of Health request for Councils to set up a Home Help Service, the local Voluntary Service run in conjunction with the Altrincham & District Nursing Association was terminated in March, 1944 and this Council promoted its own service from that date.

One full-time Home Help was engaged and two part-timers assisted to the extent of three weeks, in covering overlapping Maternity cases. Details of the cases attended are as follows:-

Applications received - 1st March to 31st December	...	...	19
Home Help supplied for full fortnight or longer	...	8	
" " " " three days	...	1	
Cancellation by patient	...	1	
" " Department (unable to fulfil)	...	1	
Application refused on account of apparent impossibility to fulfil	...	1	(needed only for one week.)
Carried forward to 1945	...	7	

In addition the Home Help has also been engaged on six cases of sickness other than Maternity cases. Part-time help was obtained for one such case for a period of two weeks.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

Treatment is available for children from this area at the Altrincham Orthopaedic Clinic, which is supported by voluntary contributions. The Clinic meets on Tuesday afternoons at the Altrincham General Hospital, and is under the supervision of Mr. H. Poston, F.R.C.S.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action was necessary under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

No maternal deaths were notified in this area during 1944.

Enquiries, respecting Maternal Deaths belonging to this district are made by the County Medical Officer of Health.

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

The number of illegitimate children born in the district is very small, averaging only about 6 per annum.

Although there is no Institution in this area for the reception of unmarried mothers, arrangements can be made with the County Council for their admission to a Maternity Home for the period covered by their confinement. The Diocesan Moral Welfare Officer is in close contact with many of these cases.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

The Health Visitor is appointed Child Protection Visitor to carry out the duties detailed in the Public Health Act, 1936.

Number of Children on Register at commencement	...	1
Number of Notices received respecting Children	...	Nil
Number of Children whose names were removed from Register on account of removal	... ..	Nil
Number of Children who died during the year...	...	Nil
Total now remaining on Register	... ..	1

The Children have all been found to be satisfactorily cared for, and it has not been necessary to institute any proceedings under this Act.

DISINFESTATION.

No action has been necessary by the Department with regard to Scabies or Lice.

Details of disinfestation with regard to Bugs, and Rats and Mice will be found in the accompanying Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

DISTRIBUTION OF MILK AND FOODS.

During the year the following milk and foods were sold at the Clinic:--

Cod Liver Oil and Malt	...	...	...	...	...	116 jars
Calcium Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	126 boxes
Lactagol	...	...	...	...	...	124 packets
Vitamin A.& D. Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	122 boxes
Cow & Gate Food	...	...	...	...	...	2930 packets
Ostermilk	...	...	...	...	...	375 packets
Prenatalac	...	...	...	...	...	73 packets

TABLE 1.
HALE URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death for the year 1944.

CAUSE OF DEATH							M.	F.	TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	-	2
Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	17	24
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	20	31
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	29	57
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Congenital Malnutrition, birth injuries & infant Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	8	13
TOTALS							68	87	155

TABLE 2.

HALE URBAN DISTRICT

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT during 1944 and previous years

Year	Popula- tion middle of each year	BIRTHS		Total Deaths registered in the District Number	TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NET DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		Uncorr- ected Number	Net Number		Rate	of Non- residents registered in the District	Residents not registered in the District	Under 1 year of age		At all Ages
								Number	Rate		Number	Rate per 1,000 Births
1935	11,140	69	99	81	5	36	5	50.5	112	9.9
1936	11,545	55	110	89	8	50	6	54.6	131	11.43
1937	11,680	60	121	87	2	37	2	16.5	122	10.44
1938	11,720	66	138	85	3	38	3	21.74	120	10.24
*1939	11,680(a) 12,040(b)	61	122	103	6	38	2	16.39	135	11.21
TOTALS LAST FIVE PRE- WAR YEARS			590				18		620	
1940	12,610	51	99	123	8	58	1	10.10	173	12.35
1941	12,270	54	125	93	12	68	4	31.0	149	12.14
1942	11,830	48	138	81	5	51	7	50.8	127	10.73
1943	11,450	58	161	91	4	58	11	68.3	145	12.66
1944	11,440	41	155	114	4	45	5	32.3	155	13.55
TOTALS - FIVE WAR YEARS			678				28		749	

Area of the District in acres (land and inland water) ... 2248 (Statute)
Total Population at all ages ... 10,667 at Census of 1931.

* (a) indicates residential population
(b) " average population appropriate to calculation of death-rate.

TABLE 3.

Cases of INFECTIOUS DISEASE notified during the Year 1944.

DISEASE	Total No. cases notified.	Und. 1	AT AGES - YEARS										WARD DISTRIBUTION				Cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths	
			1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	Central	North	South-East			West
Scarlet Fever	29	-	-	-	1	2	14	9	1	1	1	-	8	8	6	7	19	-	
Diphtheria	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pneumonia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	3	1	5	4	3	1	-	-	
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles	32	-	2	4	2	8	16	-	-	-	-	-	6	12	6	3	-	-	
Whooping Cough	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	
Totals	84	-	3	4	4	10	31	9	2	8	7	4	2	24	27	17	16	21	1

R E P O R T O F S A N I T A R Y

I N S P E C T O R

To the Chairman and Members of the
Hale Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1944.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of a small number of houses in the added area of Ringway, which derive their water supply from wells, the whole of the urban district is served by the mains of the Manchester Corporation, and a constant supply of excellent quality is maintained, the supply being entirely direct to the houses, and standpipes non-existent.

A scheme for the provision of a mains supply to the houses in Ringway already referred to was rejected during the year 1943 on the grounds of stringency of labour materials and considered unimportance of the scheme to the war effort generally, but as a result of persistent representations to the Ministry of Health approval was ultimately forthcoming and it was expected to execute the scheme early in 1945.

It is worthwhile to record that samples were taken from thirteen shallow wells in the affected area, and these showed unfavourable results in nine cases out of the thirteen.

I am indebted to the Engineer of the Manchester Corporation Waterworks for the following information with regard to the supply:--

"The water supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological examinations are made of the raw water and of the water going into supply. In the latter case, out of 109 samples tested, 107 were found to be free from coliform bacteria. The results of the chemical analysis were satisfactory.

As a precaution against plumbo-solvent action, the water is treated with hydrated lime. This reduces the lead content of water after standing for 20 hours in lead service pipes to about .25 part per million. "

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

In the district there remain only 44 pail closets, but the absence of available sewers and mains water supply prevents the installation of water closets at the houses which are at present served by these conveniences.

Total Number of Water Closets	...	...	3,915
Total Number of Pail Closets	...	...	44

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No nuisance has been detected at the one factory chimney which has in the past given cause for complaint.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS, ETC.

Two houses were found to be infested with bugs during the year; the infestation was not serious and was cleared up after spraying with Zaldecide. Two other houses were found to be infested with other insects, one of which was cleared after fumigation with formalin, and the other house was undergoing treatment at the end of the year.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS.

There are several stables and one knacker's yard in the district. Removal of refuse is required weekly. 38 inspections have been made to ensure compliance with this requirement. There is also a fat melting plant, but same is not being used at present.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT

COMPLAINTS.

158 complaints were received and investigated during the year.

SUMMARY OF ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.

Inspections of dwelling houses re complaints	...	...	104
Inspections of dwelling houses re overcrowding	...	...	3
Number of visits re infectious disease	...	...	36
Disinfections	...	...	11
Inspections of houses for dilapidated ashbins	...	...	44
Inspections re Certificates of Essentiality	...	...	84
Visits re Evacuees	...	...	19
Visits re Sick Bay for Evacuees	...	...	56
Inspections of cowsheds...	...	...	21
Inspections of dairies and milkshops	...	...	51
Inspections of Milk Vehicles	...	...	13
Inspections of bakehouses	...	...	18
Inspections of butchers' shops	...	...	7
Inspections of meat after home slaughter	...	...	5
Inspections of fishmongers' shops	...	...	1
Inspection of fried fish shops	...	...	1
Inspection of factory canteens	...	...	1
Inspections of other food shops	...	...	13
Inspections of schools	...	...	20
Inspections of firewatchers premises	...	...	2
Inspections of factories (withn mechanical power)	...	...	18
Inspections of factories (without mechanical power)	...	...	12
Inspection of Shops under Shops Act...	...	...	1
Inspection of other workplaces	...	...	1
Inspections re water supply	...	...	60
Inspections re drainage...	...	...	34
Inspections of houses re Rats and Mice	...	...	115
Inspections of sewers re Rats and Mice	...	...	672
Inspections re salvage	...	...	58
Inspections re refuse removal...	...	...	3
Inspections of refuse tip	...	...	36
Inspections of knacker's yard...	...	...	17
Inspections of stables	...	...	21
Inspections of piggeries	...	...	6
Inspections of Rest Centres	...	...	12
Inspections of Military Premises	...	...	12
Miscellaneous inspections	...	...	103
			<u>1691</u>
Revisits re work ordered or in progress	...	...	<u>155</u>
Total Number of inspections and revisits	...	...	<u>1846</u>
			====

HOUSING.

STATISTICS.

Number of New houses erected during the year:-

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	
(i) By the Local Authority	Nil
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil
(iii) By other bodies and persons	Nil
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts	Nil

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

(1)(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	155
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	155
(2)(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... ..	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... ..	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	155

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	125
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings not to re-let for human habitation were accepted	Nil
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding:-

(a)(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	2
(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	2
(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein...	...	...	...	...	20
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year...	...	...	...	...	1
(c)(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	1
(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	4

NOTICES.

Informal Notices served during the year	...	...	...	116
Statutory Notices served during the year	...	...	...	1
Informal Notices complied with during the year	...	...	...	93
Statutory Notices complied with during the year	...	...	...	1

IMPROVEMENTS.

HOUSING -

Brickwork repaired or repointed...	...	...	...	...	1
Roofs repaired and rendered watertight	...	...	...	...	15
Chimney flashings repaired or renewed...	...	...	...	...	1
Eaves gutters cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Rain water pipes cleansed or renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Firegrates repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	4
Handrails provided	...	...	...	...	1
Windows made to open or otherwise repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Wood floors repaired	...	...	...	...	16
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Water service pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Rats and mice exterminated	...	...	...	...	32
Sink or bath wastepipes renewed...	...	...	...	...	4
Sinks renewed or provided...	...	...	...	...	3
Washbasins renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Disinfested after bugs or fleas...	...	...	...	...	2
Domestic hot water systems repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	...	...	...	...	3
Accumulations of refuse, etc. removed...	...	...	...	...	2
Nuisance from keeping animals abated	...	...	...	...	1
New sculleries provided	...	...	...	...	1
Boundary fences repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	51

DRAINAGE -

Public Sewers cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Public Sewers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drainage systems repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	9
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	6
Septic tanks cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sub-soil drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Inspection chamber covers renewed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Vent shafts or F.A. Inlets repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gullies cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	2

SANITARY CONVENIENCES -

New basins provided...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water supply provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
W.C. compartments cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	3

REFUSE RECEPTACLES -

Dilapidated ashbins renewed	31
-----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Other Improvements	12
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

TOTAL IMPROVEMENTS	239
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

CERTIFICATES OF ESSENTIALITY FOR BUILDING REPAIRS -

15 applications were received during the year and 12 certificates granted, for a total amount of £2,074.0.0d. The work included the conversion of 4 houses into 9 self-contained flats.

In addition 18 certificates were issued to property owners and builders to enable them to obtain building materials in short supply for essential work.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901
and
FACTORY ACT, 1937.

During the year 31 inspections of factories and workplaces were made; no written notices were served but verbal intimation of infringements was given at 8 premises.

1. INSPECTION for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES (1)	NUMBER OF		
	Inspect- ions. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power ...	18	Nil	Nil
Factories without mechanical power...	12	Nil	Nil
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises)	1	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	31	Nil	Nil

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect to which Pro- secutions were instituted (5)
	Found. (2)	Reme- died. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspect- or. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)... ..	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):				
Insufficient	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	3	2	-	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)	5	7	-	-
TOTAL	12	13	Nil	Nil

MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE -

Improved means of escape in case of fire was provided at one factory, and the necessary certificate issued.

SHOPS ACT, 1934 -

Improved means of heating was provided at one shop in this district as a result of action taken by the Department.

MILK SUPPLY -

The seven cowsheds and sixteen dairies in the district have maintained a good standard of cleanliness during the year. Four of our seven cowkeepers are now producing "Accredited" milk, one supplier having been granted a Licence during the year, after executing considerable improvements to his dairy premises.

There were 40 milk purveyors on the register at the end of 1944.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936 -

With a view to increasing the consumption of designated milk the Council again decided to issue all licences under the Order free of charge during 1945.

One local dairy was also modernised, and a Licence granted for the bottling of Tuberculin Tested milk.

6 Licences^{were} issued under the Order during the year:

Designation	Bottlers	Dealers	Supplementary	Totals
Tuberculin Tested ...	1	2	1	4
Accredited ...	-	-	-	-
Pasteurised ...	-	-	2	2
Totals ...	1	2	3	6

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK -

During the year 13 samples of milk were taken for examination. The detailed results of 42 tests carried out were as follows:-

	Methylene Blue Test		B. Coli		Count Plate Test		Phosphatase Test		Tuberculosis		Total Examinations.
	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Negative.	Positive.	
Tuberculin Tested Milk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accredited Milk	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	9
Pasteurised Milk	-	-	1 *	1 *	2	-	2	-	2	-	8
Heat-Treated Milk	-	-	-	1 *	1	-	1	-	1	-	4
Non-Designated Milk	6 *	1 *	5 *	2 *	-	-	-	-	7	-	21
Totals	8	2	8	5	3	-	3	-	13	-	42

In considering these tabulated results it should be borne in mind that the figures marked with an Asterisk (*) refer to tests which are not supported by any legal standard, and whilst they form a useful guide it is not practicable to take strong action with regard to them.

The results show an improvement on last year, but further improvement is desirable.

Concern is felt with the high proportion of samples of Pasteurised and Heat-treated milk which fail to pass the usual test for Bacillus Coli; the standards laid down in the Milk (Special Designations) Order omit any reference to this test insofar as Pasteurised milk is concerned, but samples of this designation so often pass the Phosphatase Test and Plate Count Test, and contain B.Coli, that one is forced to the conclusion that there should be a B.Coli standard in force for Pasteurised milk, and its more modern counterpart, Heat-treated milk.

It is gratifying to record that all the thirteen samples taken were free from Tuberculosis - not one positive result has figured in the past twenty-eight samples.

All the examinations were carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS --

There are no registered or licensed slaughterhouses in the district. Butchers obtain their meat supplies from Altrincham. 7 visits have been made to the shops, and the meat exposed for sale was of good quality. 5 pigs slaughtered for home consumption at farm premises were inspected and passed as fit for human food.

The following foods were also condemned and destroyed:-

- 50 lbs. Cheese.
- 20 lbs. Ham.
- 10 lbs. Boiled Ham.
- 120 lbs. Peas.
- 140 lbs. Codfish.
- 185 tins assorted foods.

This rise in condemned food does not necessarily imply a deterioration in quality of canned foods, but is probably brought about by the desire of tradesmen to seek compensation for the ration values thereby lost.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 -- SAMPLING --

The taking of samples under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, is carried out by the Cheshire County Council.

I am indebted to Mr. S. Hallard, Chief Weights and Measures Inspector, Cheshire County Council, for the following report on the work under this heading, carried out during the year:-

Name of Sample	Number of samples obtained.	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality.
Arrowroot	1	-
Butter	1	-
Bacon	1	-
Cheese	1	-
Castor Oil	1	-
Friars Balsam	1	-
Lard	1	-
Milk	23	-
Mint	1	-
Margarine	1	-
Suphur Ointment	1	-
Seidlitz Powder	1	-
Sugar	1	-
Tea	1	-
Liquorice Powder	1	-
Total	37	-

All the samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis and the fact that not one sample out of the 37 obtained was reported against is a most satisfactory result.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE --

The collection of refuse is carried out by the Local Authority over the whole district, the ashbins in the district being emptied once a fortnight. Shortage of labour of the right type has been wholly responsible for any reduction of efficiency or regularity of the service which may have been evident during the year.

SALVAGE --

The Salvage Stewards still continue to operate fairly successfully, and a weekly collection is made from sacks which they put out each week. In addition salvage is collected by the refuse collectors.

The figures were almost within reach of those for last year, and at this stage of the war effort are in my opinion very gratifying.

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT			VALUE		
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.
Paper and Cardboard ...	93	16	2	598.	2.	4
Iron & Tins	1	13	2	2.	1.	10
Rags and other Textiles	2	19	3	40.	0.	0
Bottles	10	4	3	16.	11.	1
Bones	6	16	-	36.	0.	10
Rubber	1	13	3	4.	4.	5
Other Items	-	-	2	-	10.	8
Totals ...	117	4	3	697.	11.	2
Totals for 1943	145	17	2	792.	5.	7

BOOK DRIVE -

A very successful Book Drive was held in conjunction with the County Drive in April.

Details of the books collected are as follows:-

Target	...	...	...	...	...	25,000
Total Number of Books collected	...					62,194

Books Collected By:

Schools	...	...	...	50,985
Girl Guides	...	...		4,272
Women's Voluntary Service				942
Salvage Stewards	...			2,374
Others	...	...	...	<u>3,621</u>
				62,194
				=====

Distribution of Books:

H.M. Forces and Merchant Navy	15,416
War-Damaged Libraries...	201
Rare Books retained for further scrutiny	...
	20
Childrens Books - distributed locally to Hospitals, etc.	...
	<u>475</u>
	16,112
Books sent for Salvage	<u>46,082</u>
	62,194
	=====

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION -

The Council have undertaken to act as agents for the Cheshire County Council in executing their functions under the Rats & Mice Destruction Act and The Infestation Order, 1943, insofar as non-agricultural premises are concerned.

The primary work of investigation is carried out by myself and the actual baiting by one of the Council's workmen, trained in disinfection methods.

32 premises were found to be infested during the year, although the infestations were generally small, and more often than not associated with poultry keeping. In 12 cases the work of disinfection was successfully undertaken by the Council; in the other cases follow-up visits showed that the responsible person had succeeded in eliminating the rats by his own efforts.

In addition periodic treatments at least once every three months are carried out at the Council's Tip and Sewage Works where the rat population is kept well in hand.

DISINFESTATION OF SEWERS --

In accordance with the Ministry of Food Order the Council's sewers were treated against rats during the year.

A preliminary 10% test of sewer manholes indicated the absence of rats in most sections, and with the approval of the Ministry of Food only 153 manholes were subsequently baited out of a total of 553. 10 manholes then showed evidence of rats, and poison "takes" were recorded in 7 out of the 10. The estimated "kill" was 80 rats.

A second treatment of infested manholes was due early in 1945.

I am, gentlemen,

Yours obedient servant,

F. J. SEALEY,

Sanitary Inspector.